

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	DOCKET NO. WRU-99-16-272
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**ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR WAIVER OF  
IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-22.3(1)"a"**

(Issued May 28, 1999)

On May 4, 1999, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S West), filed a "Motion For Waiver Of I.A.C. 199-22.3(1)"a". U S West requests the Board waive the portion of the rule requiring that a directory be published not less than annually, as applied to the directory listings for Oelwein and Independence, Iowa, such that the 2000 issue of the Oelwein directory will be a 17-month issue. The result would be to change the annual publication date for the Oelwein and Independence exchanges from January to June.

In support of its request, U S West states that its customers in the Independence, Oelwein, and West Union exchanges are currently listed in the Oelwein directory, which is published by U S WEST DEX, Inc. (Dex), in January of each year. Dex is planning to remove the West Union listings from the Oelwein directory and include them in the Decorah directory beginning in January 2000. Dex also plans to publish a January 2000 Oelwein directory including the Oelwein and Independence listings. After that directory is published, Dex intends to move the

Oelwein and Independence listings to the 2001 Waterloo directory. That directory is published in June of each year, meaning that the 2000 Oelwein directory would be in use for 17 months, from January of 2000 to June of 2001.

U S West states that a trade center study provided to U S West by Iowa State University indicates that the Oelwein/Independence trade area is aligned with the Waterloo market, such that a combined directory will better suit the needs and shopping patterns of advertisers and consumers in these exchanges. U S West did not provide a copy of the trade center study for the Board's review. Finally, U S West argues that the revised directory alignments will not split school districts or will have a minimal impact therein.

U S West states that it will notify its customers of these changes through press releases in January 2000 and January 2001 and through issue dates on the cover of the directory and that it will notify its advertisers during sales interviews beginning in October 1999.

The Board will grant the waiver request. The Board's rule, IOWA ADMIN.

CODE 199-22.3(1)"a," provides:

- a. Telephone directories shall be published not less than annually, except for good cause shown, listing the name, address and telephone number of all customers unless otherwise requested by the customer.

The rule clearly contemplates that, for good cause shown, directories may be published other than annually. Based upon the statements in U S West's motion, it appears there is good cause for waiving the rule in order to facilitate the re-alignment

of the directory listings for customers in the Oelwein, Independence, and West Union exchanges.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The "Motion For Waiver Of I.A.C. 199-22.3(1)"a" filed on May 4, 1999, by U S WEST Communications, Inc., is granted.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

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Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 28th day of May, 1999.